Proposal to run a bullet train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad

593. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been formulated to run a bullet train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the results of the preliminary 1 feasibility studies carried out, if any, and the present status of the project;

(c) whether any foreign agencies are being associated with the project; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) A Techno-economic Feasibility Study for running High-Speed Train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad has been initiated. The proposal will be considered on receipt of the report.

Construction of overbridge near Deoria Sadar Station

†594 SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had sanctioned a project for making an overbridge on Kasya Road Level crossing near Deoria Sadar Station in North-East Railway;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government so far, towards the construction of the said bridge; and

(c) by when the construction of said bridge would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. A work for construction of road over bridge at Deoria Sadar in lieu of level crossing No. 129 was sanctioned on cost sharing basis in works Programme of 1998-99.

(b) and (c) Execution of construction work could not be taken up as State Government, has not yet made available the revised General Arrangement Drawing. In view of this, time for completion of the over bridge can not be fixed at this stage.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.